



On February 17, 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Obama. ARRA provides increased support to several existing federal programs administered by states, creates new programs such as the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, and offers opportunities for states to apply for competitive grant programs.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's significant investment in North Carolina totaled almost \$19.5 billion, including assistance for those needing help the most through increases in unemployment benefits, Medicaid payments, and food stamps. In addition to those expanded services, ARRA gives hundreds of thousands of working North Carolinians a break through tax credits like the *Making Work Pay* tax credit and the *First Time Homebuyer's* tax credit.

The Recovery Act is not like earlier attempts to revive the nation's economy. It is not only a one-time infusion of federal funds; instead it is a long-term effort to restore economic expansion in the short-term, as well as prepare the nation's economy for stable, healthy long-term growth. Under the terms of the Recovery Act, support for North Carolina's economy will include both investments made directly by the federal government and investments of federal funds that are made under the oversight of the North Carolina state government.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Report, Pender County

Pender County received more than \$50 million in ARRA funding in grants, loans, and bonds. The following report outlines the various funding categories that contributed to the Pender County total.



Water/Sewer Projects:
2



Small Business Jobs:
43

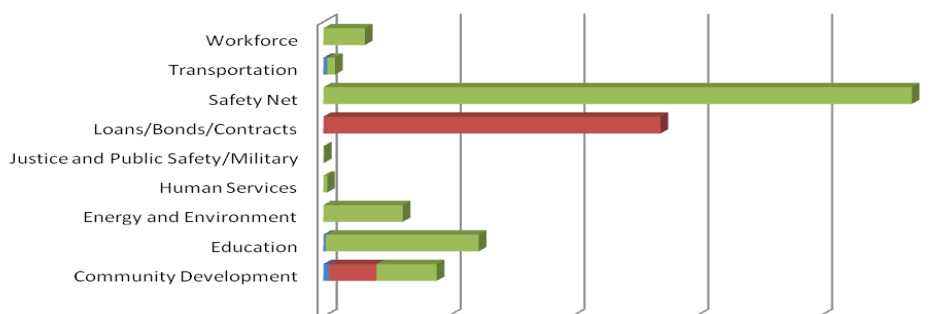


Appliances rebated:
120



Family homes financed:
43

Pender County Totals



Sum of Prime Awards Sum of Sub-Awards Sum of Loans/Bonds

Pender County,
pop 52,378 at a glance:

Recovery Act Totals:
Grants: \$ 35,403,657.55
Loans: \$ 8,829,233
Bonds: \$ 6,685,000

Total: \$50,917,890.55



Education

The Recovery Act placed a special emphasis on maintaining education funding. Governor Beverly Perdue furthered this commitment by pledging additional recovery funds from the Recovery Act to education, and leading North Carolina to additional funds by winning \$400 million in the Race to the Top program.

Most of the ARRA education funds are distributed to local schools through existing funding formulas. Special Education Funds and Title I funds go to schools based on eligible student enrollment. State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF) and the EduJobs grants were designed to hold schools harmless during the recession, and were distributed to public and charter schools. The school systems have spent the majority of the funds on staff and support. Some projects, such as Race to the Top, will be spent for purchasing products and services rather than salaries for staff.

Authorization for low/no interest bonds for school construction/renovation followed the Department of Public Instruction procedures with initial allotments to the school systems. If a school system could not utilize their allotment, it was released to other school systems that could utilize additional allotments.

Pender County schools received \$7.5 million in education funding, including \$1.5 million in Special Education funds, \$1 million in Title I funds, \$4 million in SFSF funds, and \$650,000 in Race to the Top funding.



Family Assistance

The Federal Department of Agriculture increased funding to their Single-Family home program with the ARRA. These resources assisted families in achieving the American Dream of home ownership through direct financial assistance (grants) or credit (loan guarantees). This program pumped more than \$729 million into North Carolina, providing assistance to more than 5,400 families.

In Pender County, 43 families received assistance through this program totaling more than \$6.5 million.

The Department of Energy created the Energy Star Appliance rebate program to help stimulate the economy by incentivizing the purchase of new, more energy efficient appliances, and helping consumers by providing long-term savings from their utility bills. The State Energy Office in the North Carolina Department of Commerce managed the program insuring North Carolina residents and retailers received the maximum benefit from this opportunity. North Carolina retailers sold more than 25,500 new energy efficiency appliances through this program, and North Carolina residents will enjoy energy savings for years to come. The program was so successful, that the State Energy Office reprogrammed additional funding to provide discounts to everyone participating in the program, bringing the total program value from \$8 up to \$10 Million.

Pender County retailers sold 120 appliances through the Energy Star Appliance rebate program.



Small Business Assistance

The ARRA provided tax breaks, increased depreciation of business assets, and incentives for hiring for small businesses through the tax law changes found in Part B of the Act. The Recovery Act also established direct aid programs through the federal Small Business Administration (SBA) and US Department of Agriculture (USDA). These programs provided grants, loans and loan guarantees to grant small businesses access to much-needed operational credit during 2009 and 2010.

In Pender County, 4 small businesses received SBA loan guarantees worth \$100,000. According to the small businesses receiving these loans, the Recovery Act saved or created 43 jobs.



Farm Assistance

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program is administered by the Farm Services Administration in the federal Department of Agriculture, which provides assistance to farmers suffering crop losses due to natural disasters. To qualify for the program a farm must have lost at least 10% of one crop during a natural disaster in a declared disaster county, or lost 50% of a crop during a disaster in a non-disaster county. North Carolina farmers received more than \$9 million in total payments under the ARRA-Funded SURE Program.

In Pender County, \$105,901 was received in assistance to farmers because of crop loss to natural disasters.



CARS Program

The Car Allowance Rebate Program (CARS), more widely known as the 'Cash-for-Clunkers' program, provided an incentive for drivers of older, energy inefficient vehicles to upgrade to new cars. This program also provided a large economic impact in North Carolina, and North Carolina dealers received more than 18,000 trade-in vehicles through this program. North Carolina Car Dealers sold more than \$400,000,000 worth of new cars (recommended MSRP) through the CARS program. North Carolina drivers will save 172,130 miles per gallon through cars purchased through this program.

In Pender County, car dealers sold 10 cars worth \$220,000 through the ARRA CARS program.



Justice and Public Safety Programs

ARRA increased funding to the federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grants Program (JAG). JAG funds were awarded both as a formula allocation to the State, for \$34.5 million, and grants distributed by the Governor's Crime Commission to various local governments and entities. In addition, \$21,853,798 went to 216 local governments across the state for various purposes in line with the requirements of the act. Finally, there is a federal competitive portion that was open to state or local government applicants.

In Pender County, the City of Burgaw and Surf City received JAG program grants worth more than \$20,000.



Environment and Natural Resources Programs

ARRA funded several programs to protect the environment, or to develop natural resources more efficiently. These programs ranged from environmental clean-up, such as leaking underground storage tank abatement and Brownfields programs, to EPA clean air grants, wildfire prevention grants, and revolving funds to build, expand, or overhaul existing water and sewer programs. These programs provided nearly \$150 million across North Carolina.

In Pender County, the City of Burgaw and Surf City received water and sewer grants worth more than \$3 million.



Green Energy Programs

One of the goals of ARRA was to provide grants to help conserve energy and assist in the development of a green economy. The State Energy Office in the North Carolina Department of Commerce received large grants for energy conservation under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. These grants include the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG), funded at just under \$20 million, and the State Energy Plan (SEP), funded at \$70 million. The State Energy Office then used these grants to make awards to businesses, non-profits, and local governments for various purposes.

In Pender County, Pender County Schools received an EECBG grant worth \$51,300 for wireless room occupancy sensors and dual voltage switches district wide. The City of Burgaw, received an EECBG grant of \$11,246 to replace inefficient lighting systems in the town hall, maintenance garage, and waste water treatment plant with energy efficient equipment.



Safety Net Programs

Safety net programs are the category of ARRA funding that consists of programs designed to help populations made particularly vulnerable by the economic crisis. These generally include increases in existing programs, most notably the increase in both benefit level and duration of unemployment payments. Increases in the amount and duration of unemployment payments makes up the largest chunk of safety net programs funded through the Recovery Act, totaling more than \$3.5 billion statewide over more than two years. Safety net programs such as unemployment insurance and SNAP (formerly known as Food Stamps), not only benefit the recipient, but have a proven economic impact on a community.

Pender County residents received \$17.5 million in Unemployment Insurance increases during the 2 ½ year ARRA benefits increase. County residents also received \$3 million in SNAP benefit increases, and \$2.5 million in one-time payments of \$250 to social security recipients.

Pender County received more than \$100,000 for Head Start Programs.

Pender County Feature Story

Pender County Uses Recovery Opportunities for Public Health and Safety

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act increased funding to the federal Department of Agriculture's Community Facilities Program. The Community Programs provide loans, grants, and loan guarantees for a variety of community selected high-impact projects, such as water and environmental projects, as well as community facilities projects. Community facilities projects develop essential community facilities for public use in rural areas and may include hospitals, fire protection, safety, as well as many other community-based initiatives.



Pender Volunteer EMS and Rescue is charged with providing emergency medical services, crash rescue, search and rescue, and medical transport services across the 857 square miles of Pender County. The county has 50,000 year round residents, with a seasonal influx of more than 30,000 tourists.

Pender EMS and Rescue boasts six paramedic ambulances, two paramedic quick response vehicles, two heavy rescue trucks, and four patient care transport trucks. 70 full-time and 33 part-time employees, along with volunteer members, staff these vehicles. Emergency medical ambulances are staffed by one EMT-Paramedic and one EMT-Intermediate or Basic. The EMS Division covers eight separate response districts within the county. The Pender County EMS and Rescue Divisions have been granted Teaching Institute status from both the North Carolina Office of EMS and the North Carolina Department of Insurance. Pender EMS prides itself on its role in teaching the community how to be better aware of what to do in an emergency or life-threatening situation. Public education classes include CPR, first aid, and AED use. These classes are offered in schools, churches, and local civic organizations throughout Pender County.



The Pender County EMS applied to the USDA's Community Facilities Program for funding to build a new EMS Station and Emergency Operations Facility to include emergency services for the district and to house the Emergency Operations Facility in Burgaw. The USDA awarded \$2 million in Recovery-funded grants and loans for the project. When completed, the new facility, will help the Pender County Volunteer EMS Service provider develop a faster response time, and save more lives.

The new facility will include new vehicle bays and a helipad for rapid rescue and medivac purposes. Almost half the funding for the project has been drawn down, and the construction of the new facility is more than 50% completed. The construction project is on track to be completed ahead of schedule.

Appendix, Pender County breakout

Federal Agency	Program Title	Recipient name	Recipient role ⁱ	Prime Amount ⁱⁱ	Unique Sub Awards ⁱⁱⁱ	Loans	Additional Economic Activity (not counted toward totals) ^{iv}
	Bonds		P			\$6,685,000.00	
	Cash for Clunkers		S		\$41,000.00		
	Very Low to Moderate Income Housing Loans - Guaranteed	Individuals	L			\$6,804,233.00	
Administration for Children and Families	ARRA - Child Care and Development Block Grant	Pender, County Of	S	\$0.00	\$156,181.05	\$0.00	
	ARRA - Head Start	Pender County School District	P	\$100,425.00		\$0.00	\$100,425.00
Department of Agriculture	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	Multiple Individuals	S		\$3,443,258.86		
Department of Energy	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG)	Burgaw, City of	S	\$0.00	\$11,246.00	\$0.00	
		Pender County School District	S	\$0.00	\$51,300.00	\$0.00	
Department of Health and Human Services	Aging Congregate Nutrition Services for States	Pender Adult Services	SV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
	Aging Home-Delivered Nutrition Services for States	Pender Adult Services	SV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Department of Housing and Urban Development	Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program Special Allocations (Recovery Act Funded)	Durham Village Apartments, A Limited Partnership	P	\$78,196.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Department of Justice	Recovery Act - Eward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program/ Grants to States and Territories	Burgaw, City of	S	\$0.00	\$11,480.40	\$0.00	
		Surf City, City Of	S	\$0.00	\$5,759.10	\$0.00	

				\$0.00	\$5,329.10	\$0.00
Department of Labor	Unemployment Insurance	Multiple Individuals	S		\$17,833,854.05	
DOI						
Environmental Protection Agency	Capitalization Grants for Clean Water State Revolving Funds	Burgaw, City of	S	\$0.00	\$3,000,000.00	\$0.00
	Capitalization Grants for Drinking Water State Revolving Funds	Surf City, City Of	S	\$0.00	\$83,792.00	\$0.00
Federal Highway Administration	Highway Planning and Construction	North Carolina Department Of Transportation	P	\$160,788.00		\$0.00
		Southern Seeding Service	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00
Idaho Operations Office	Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program (EEARP)		P		\$17,025.00	\$0.00
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education	Education Technology State Grants, Recovery Act	Pender County School District	S	\$0.00	\$25,414.00	\$0.00
	State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) - Education State Grants, Recovery Act	Pender County School District	S	\$0.00	\$4,367,995.00	\$0.00
	State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) - Race-to-the-Top Incentive Grants, Recovery Act	Pender County School District	S	\$0.00	\$671,881.00	\$0.00
	Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies, Recovery Act	Pender County School District	S	\$0.00	\$937,546.00	\$0.00
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services	Special Education - Preschool Grants, Recovery Act	Pender County School District	S	\$0.00	\$66,019.00	\$0.00
	Special Education Grants to States, Recovery Act	Pender County School District	S	\$0.00	\$1,678,418.00	\$0.00
Rural Housing Service	Community Facilities Loans and Grants		P	\$70,000.00		\$0.00
		Barker Architecture	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00
				\$0.00		\$0.00
		Clancy & Theys	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00

				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$246,908.00
		Pender Volunteer Ems And Rescue, Inc	P	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00
				\$0.00	\$1,900,000.00	\$1,900,000.00
		Robert Kenan Attorney At Law	PV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,941.40
				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,941.40
		Walton Engineering	PV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,061.00
				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,061.00
Small Business Administration	Loans	Dean Business Systems LLC	L		\$30,000.00	
		Eastern Specialty Sales, Llc	L		\$10,000.00	
		Jumpin Party Rentals, LLC	L		\$50,000.00	
		W. R. Rayson Co., Inc.	L		\$35,000.00	
SSA	Social Security Economic Recovery Act Payments	Multiple Individuals	P	\$2,486,750.00		
USACE						
Grand Total				\$509,409.00	\$34,894,248.55	\$15,514,233.00
						\$2,844,038.96

ⁱ Recipient Role are as follows: P is a prime recipient; S is a Sub-recipient; PV is a vendor to a prime recipient; SV is a vendor to a sub-recipient; L is a loan recipient.

ⁱⁱ Prime Amounts are unique prime awards within a county. These are entities who have received funding directly from a federal agency, and are required to report directly to www.federalreporting.gov

ⁱⁱⁱ Unique Sub Awards are amounts that flow into a county from a source that is NOT directly from a Federal Agency. Generally these are funds awarded to the North Carolina State Government that have been directed to a local source.

^{iv} Additional Economic Activity are economic activity attributable to a previous funding category. They may be a sub award by a prime recipient within a county, or a contract funded by one of the previous three columns. This economic activity is not counted toward the county total.